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Kernan Announces Grants to Train 1,412 Workers in Two North-Central Indiana Companies

INDIANAPOLIS — Lt. Governor Joe Kernan announced today that companies in Marion and Tipton have been awarded training grants from the Indiana Department of Commerce Skills Enhancement Fund.

“These companies are committed to improving the skills of their workforce through training,” said Kernan, serves as the director of the Department of Commerce. “We are excited to be a part of such a commitment and hope that these grants will allow Marion Metal and Steel Parts Corp. to stay competitive.”

- **Marion Metal Fabrication**, Marion, has been awarded a \$200,000 grant to retrain 1,090 existing employees as part of a \$30 million capital investment in equipment upgrades. Marion Metal was founded in 1908 and has grown into the world's largest industrial corporation and full-line vehicle manufacturer. The company will use the grant to train employees in basic algebra, geometry, troubleshooting, problem solving, control Logix, welding, pin stamping and other skills.
- **Steel Parts Corp.**, Tipton, has been awarded a \$94,900 grant to train 16 new and 306 incumbent employees following the company's \$3.4 million investment in new equipment. Steel Parts Corp. began operations in 1946 building stokers and milk coolers. The company has since transformed into a full engineering service and manufacturing auto supplier with customers such as Ford Motor Co. Steel Parts will use the Commerce grant to upgrade equipment and make building improvements. They will also train their employees in basic math, robotics, welding, International Standards Organization and quality training.

Commerce awards Skills Enhancement Fund grants to Indiana companies that undertake capital investment projects. The grants help defray the costs of training new and current employees in basic work skills and company-specific skills necessary to support the project. Companies interested in learning more about the Skills Enhancement Fund should contact their regional Commerce office 800.463.8081 or visit the Web site at www.indianacommerce.com.